

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks herein.

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 19-40 will be pending. By this amendment, claims 30 and 37 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

§103 Rejection of Claims 19-40

In Section 1 of the Office Action, claims 19-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Iwamura (U.S. Patent No. 5,883,621) in view of Thiemer *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,544,321); hereinafter referred to as “Theimer”). This rejection is respectfully traversed below.

In the Background section of the Specification, it was disclosed that in “an IEEE1394 interface [the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers 1394, High Performance Serial Interface Bus Standard], one bus is shared by a plurality of devices on a time-division multiplex basis, and the devices are connected in a ring configuration or a star configuration to form a network. The video-handling devices are also configured in the same way.” *Background of the Specification, page 5, lines 17-21*. The Background continues, “[l]ikewise, a network may be easily constructed in a single home. For example, a video signal reproduced by an optical disk device placed in a living room may be viewed in a monitor device in a bed room.” *Background of the Specification, page 5, lines 22-25*. The Background continues, “[i]t would be convenient if a user could continuously watch in the bed room with an easy operation a program that has been viewed from the optical disk device in the living room.” *Background of the Specification, page 6, lines 1-4*. Thus, the Background highlights the shortcomings associated with video-

handling devices that are configured without the ability to allow a user to continuously view in a separate room with an easy operation a program that has been viewed previously in another room.

To address the above-described shortcomings in video-handling devices, embodiments of the present invention provide an information signal transmission system and method that includes an information signal such as a continued video signal with devices switched, and a remote control device adapted to such an information signal transmission system. *Specification, page 6, lines 7-11.*

To achieve the above-described objective, the information signal transmission system of the present invention comprises recipient detecting means for detecting a recipient of the information signal, wherein the information signal that has been supplied to the recipient by a first device is continuously supplied to the recipient by a second device, based on the result detected by the recipient detecting means. *Specification, page 6, lines 12-19.* The recipient of the information signal is detected, and the information signal that has been supplied to the recipient by the first device is continuously supplied to the recipient by the second device, based on the detected result by the recipient detecting means. *Specification, page 6, lines 20-24.*

For example, the information signal transmission system of claim 19, as presented herein, includes:

- a network interface connected to a first presentation device and to a second presentation device through a network;
- a control component connected to said network interface, including a microcomputer to control the information signal transmission system;
- an information signal component connected to said control component and to said network interface, including a reproduction block to reproduce an information signal received

from said control component and an output block to code an information signal reproduced by said reproduction block and output the information signal to said network interface; and

an identification component connected to said control component;

wherein while said information signal component outputs an information signal to said first presentation device through said network interface, said identification component stores identification data indicating an identification code identifying a user,

when said control component receives a control request from said second presentation device through said network interface and said control request includes identification data indicating said identification code identifying said user, said identification component determines that the identification code of said identification data in said control request matches the identification code of said identification data stored by said identification component and sends a change device request to said control component, said change device request indicating said second presentation device, and

when said control component receives said change device request indicating said second presentation device, said control component causes said information signal component to begin to output said information signal to said second presentation device through said network interface.

(emphasis added)

Accordingly, in one aspect of claim 19, “while said information signal component outputs an information signal to said first presentation device, . . . said identification component stores identification data indicating an identification code identifying a user,” and “when said control component receives a control request from said second presentation device . . . and said control request includes identification data indicating said identification code identifying said user, said identification component determines that the identification code . . . in said control request matches the identification code . . . stored by said identification component and sends a change device request to said control component, said change device request indicating said

second presentation device . . .” (emphasis added). That is, the above claim limitations require receipt by a control component of a control request from a second presentation device, wherein the control request contains identification data indicating the identification code of the user. The received identification code must be the same as the identification code of said user the was previously stored by the identification component, because a comparison is made of the received identification code and the stored identification code to make sure the identification codes match. Thus, when the codes match, a change device request indicating the presence of the second presentation device is sent to the control component.

It was stated on page 3 of the Office Action that Iwamura fails to disclose the information signal component, identification component, or remaining limitations of claim 19. *June 6, 2005 Office Action, page 3.* Theimer was cited for disclosing these limitations. *June 6, 2005 Office Action, page 3.* However, Theimer fails to disclose storing identification data indicating an identification code identifying a user, and comparing the stored identification code with an identification code identifying the user received in a control request. Rather, Theimer appears to discuss a User Agent’s receipt of and response to incoming RPC (remote procedure call) requests in which information is sent to outside clients, not to the user. In this process, an identification code identifying a user (sent from a control request from a second presentation device) is not matched with a previously stored identification code identifying the user. Further, a change device request is not sent based on such a match. Thus, Iwamura and Theimer, in combination or individually, fail to teach or suggest an information signal transmission system including an identification component, control component, first presentation device, and second presentation device, wherein “while said information signal component outputs an information signal to said first presentation device, . . . said identification component stores identification data indicating

an identification code identifying a user,” and “when said control component receives a control request from said second presentation device . . . and said control request includes identification data indicating said identification code identifying said user, said identification component determines that the identification code . . . in said control request matches the identification code . . . stored by said identification component and sends a change device request to said control component, said change device request indicating said second presentation device” as described in claim 19 (emphasis added), to meet the above-described objective of tailoring the devices of a system to allow a user to continuously view in a separate room with an easy operation a program that has been viewed previously by the user in another room.

Based on the foregoing discussion, claim 19 should be allowable over the combination of Iwamura and Theimer. Furthermore, since independent claims 30 and 37, as amended herein, are method and system claims that closely parallel, and recite substantially similar limitations as recited in independent claim 1, claims 30 and 37 should also be allowable over the combination of Iwamura and Theimer. Since claims 20-29, 31-36 and 38-40 depend from one of claims 1, 30 and 37, claims 20-29, 31-36 and 38-40 should also be allowable over the combination of Iwamura and Theimer.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the Examiner’s rejection of claims 19-40 based upon 35 U.S.C. §103(a) has been overcome by the present remarks and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, entry of this amendment, and the allowance of this application with claims 19-40 is respectfully solicited.

In regard to the claims amended herein and throughout the prosecution of this application, it is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

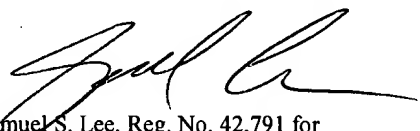
In the event that additional cooperation in this case may be helpful to complete its prosecution, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number written below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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